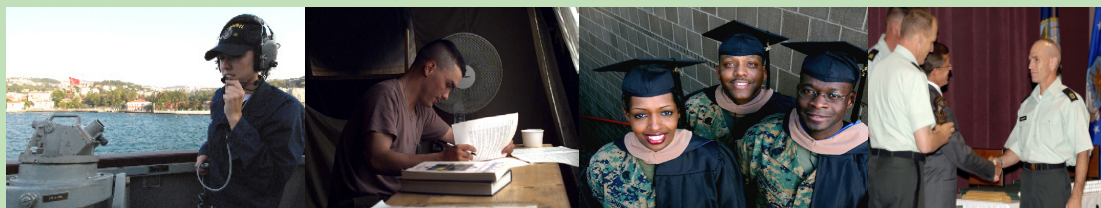


www.dantes.doded.mil



December 2009, Number 395

Worldwide Education Support to the Department of Defense

Dr. Jeff Cropsey retires after 40 years of Federal Service

After more than 40 years of service to the Department of Defense, Dr. Jeff Cropsey will be leaving DANTES and the Federal Service effective Jan. 2, 2010.



Cropsey began his military career in August 1969 as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army. After attending Military Police Officer training at Fort Gordon, Ga., he spent the next three years as a Platoon Leader and Company Commander. He left as a Captain in 1972.

In July 1972 Cropsey began his career in Voluntary Education. For the next 37 years he worked in Army, Air Force, Navy and DANTES Voluntary Education positions around the world. For the last five years Cropsey has served as the Director of DANTES.

According to Cropsey, "It has been such a blessing to work with so many wonderful people from all the Services over these 40 years. I am proud of what we have done together in the Voluntary Education Community to help the members of the Armed Forces achieve their educational goals and I look forward to continuing that service in the future."

A luncheon honoring Cropsey is planned for Dec. 18, 2009 at the Mustin Beach Officers Club at NAS Pensacola. For additional information, contact Nell Mock at (850) 452-1111 ext. 3150 or dantes@navy.mil.

DANTES Regional Workshop to be held in San Diego

The next DANTES Regional Workshop will be held on Jan. 26-28, 2010 in San Diego, Calif. at the Courtyard Marriott, Liberty Station.

DANTES periodically conducts these free workshops in various regions around the United States to provide information and updates about the voluntary education programs. The workshops target Education Service Officers (ESOs), Counselors, and others who represent the military voluntary education community, along with representatives from colleges who provide degree programs to our Service members. The focus of the workshop is to promote a better understanding and utilization of the voluntary education programs managed by DANTES.

Tentative agenda topics for the Workshop are:

- Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits
- Online Academic Skills course (OASC)
- Distance Learning panel (including several online universities)
- National Test Center panel (including local test centers)
- Credentialing
- Distance Learning Catalog
- Coastline Community College's Virtual Campus
- Current Changes in Military Credit
- Wounded Warrior Programs
- eBooks, electronic content delivery
- And more....



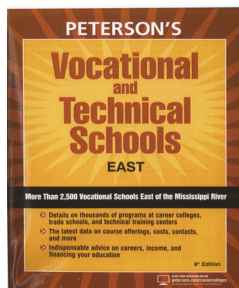
San Diego Bay

To register for this free DANTES workshop, http://www.dantes.doded.mil/Dantes_web/training/registrationform.asp?formnum=1. To make online hotel reservations at the Courtyard Marriott, <http://cwp.marriott.com/sanal/dantesdefense/>. Or you can call (619) 221-1900 or toll free number 1-800-321-2211, and ask for the DANTES Defense Education Meeting group rate &/or group code DDE. The per diem rate applies to the nights of Jan. 25-28, 2010.

For additional information, e-mail dantestraining@navy.mil or visit DANTES Regional Workshop Web site http://www.dantes.doded.mil/Dantes_web/training/regwkshps.htm.

Did you know? There are more than 4,500 vocational and technical schools in the U.S.

Statistics show that the majority of this nation's new jobs require strong technical skills...the exact type of skills taught in career colleges. Career colleges (or more commonly called technical or vocational colleges) offer many

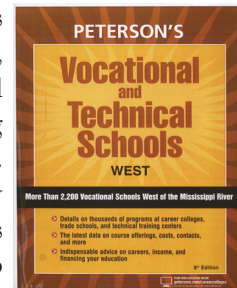


opportunities to learn the technical skills required by today's top jobs. This is especially true in the areas of computers and information technology, health care, and hospitality (culinary arts, travel and tourism, hotel and motel management). A military member with additional technical training may lead to professional advancement opportunities and development.

Find out more about the technical/vocational college paths. Military Education Centers order your free publication (2 book set) of the "Peterson's Technical and Vocational Schools (East and West)". Send an e-mail to DANTES Distribution Center at dist@navy.mil with your DANTES ID

number and the quantity needed. There is a limit of 25 per year. DANTES Stock number for this publication is 2415.

For additional ordering information of DANTES Reference Publications go to http://www.dantes.doded.mil/Dantes_web/distribution/index.htm or to review a complete listing of all DANTES Reference Publications go to http://www.dantes.doded.mil/Dantes_web/distribution/catindex.htm.



Navy College hosts education fair aboard Naval Base Coronado

- Submitted by MC3 Amanda Tatom, NBC Public Affairs Office

Naval Base Coronado's (NBC) Navy College Office hosted its annual free Education Fair July 21 at the Naval Air Station North Island Galley. The event allowed Sailors access to 49 different universities and colleges. "An education fair provides a comfortable venue with a vast amount of resources for potential students," said Susan Hannasch, Director of the Navy College Office aboard NBC. "Education is a win-win situation for our service members, but often times many are not aware of the possibilities and benefits."

Over 500 contacts were established at this year's event which is an increase from last year's and allowed attendees to receive on-the-spot counseling pertaining to admission requirements, degree programs, and financial aid. "It is my goal to be able to provide as many viable college options and opportunities as possible for our clients to explore as they pursue their education," said Hannasch.

"I joined the Navy to further my education. I got the chance to sign up for a placement test to see where



for which school I wanted to attend," said Aviation Boatswain Mate Airman Stephanie Robinson.

The education fair was a one day event, but the Navy College Office is open Monday through Friday, ready to provide the tools, knowledge and information in support of students' educational goals and professional development. For more information call the NBC Navy College Office at (619) 545-9589.

Naval Station Coronado's Navy College Office hosted an education fair. Over 500 contacts were established at this year's event which is an increase from last year's and allowed attendees to receive on-the-spot counseling pertaining to admissions requirements, degree programs and financial aid.



Want the DIB sent directly to your e-mail?

If you would like to have the DANTES Information Bulletin (DIB) sent monthly to your e-mail, click on the icon at right or send an email to pubs@navy.mil.



Survey shows higher online fees for some students

While 20 percent of online students are paying less than traditional, classroom-based students, nearly half of respondents in a survey conducted by WCET (Western Cooperative for Educational Telecommunications) and the College Computing Project say their online students are paying more for a college education. In addition to higher tuition, some students in online programs may incur additional fees not required for on-campus students.

This seems to fly in the face of conventional thinking that online courses are cheaper for schools to develop and offer. According to Kenneth C. Green, director of the Campus Computing Project and head of the joint study, "There are pretty hefty commitments ... and real costs (for colleges supporting robust web-based learning programs)." He adds, "Tech support really is a key component of the infrastructure for online programs."

When respondents were asked about the quality of online education, almost all (94 percent) affirmed that faculty quality is comparable in their online and on-campus programs. Four-fifths (79 percent) believe the learning experience to be similar and 84 percent find student outcomes the same. Those surveyed reported employer acceptance of credentials, whether online or on-campus, at 93 percent.

The 2009 Managing Online Education Survey report became available from the Campus Computing Project at <http://www.campuscomputing.net/> on Nov. 20.

Army distance education

Early in the 20th Century, General "Blackjack" Pershing faced a dilemma. He knew that the Army could be called upon to fight in a conflict at any time, and it was not prepared to do so. He also knew that budgets in the past provided few funds for equipment and training, leaving a peace-time Army ill-prepared to meet complex challenges.

His answer to meeting his training requirements was to support the Soldier's training needs wherever that Soldier was stationed. That vision inspired correspondence courses for the ranks.

The first correspondence course used in the U.S. Army was developed by the Quartermaster School to supplement its resident training. Officers in the Quartermaster Corps began taking that course by mail in 1917, with 650 students enrolled in the non-resident training within four months of its start. Since then, correspondence courses have evolved into an integral part of a Soldier's professional development.

In 2008, the Army Institute for Professional Development (AIPD) processed 1.7 million student enrollments in courses and subcourses while maintaining 5 million transcripts. The Distance Education and Training Council reaccredited AIPD in 2008.

The Combat Lifesaver Course (CLC) is an example of a correspondence course that trains Soldiers to treat a wounded comrade while still in the combat area, helping to save lives while also providing a specialty certification to Soldiers. In 2008, the Army Training Support Center (ATSC) processed 61,000 Soldier enrollments for the CLC. The CLC is a great example of continuing to meet the increased demand for training and training materials, while having an immediate, positive impact on our Armed Forces.

Just as General "Blackjack" Pershing had a vision to design and deliver training to students outside brick and mortar classrooms, so does ATSC strive to provide the tools and technology that support student training whenever and wherever they need it.

Extracted from an article, From Paper to Electrons, by Mr. Thomas Daley, Chief, Army Institute for Professional Development Team, in DETC NEWS, Fall 2009.

Excelsior President visits DANTES

Recently John Ebersole and Patrick Jones of Excelsior College visited DANTES to discuss their programs.



Left to right: Bob Berkley, Carol Thompson, John Ebersole, President, Patrick Jones, Jeff Cropsey and Vince Harmon

CCME 2010 Symposium

CCME will hold their yearly symposium at the Nashville Renaissance Hotel and Nashville Convention Center on Feb. 15-18, 2010. The theme is "Developing a 21st Century Total Force - A Matter of Honor". For more information, visit CCME at <http://www.ccmeonline.org>.

New DANTES staff



DANTES welcomes Kathy Bratsch as the new Manager, Reference Publications. She came to DANTES from Naval Education

Training Program Development Training Center (NETPDTC) Saufley Field Pensacola, Fla.

DANTES Examinations Program

TCOs: First Quarter FY10 Test Inventory due Jan. 1, 2010

The following instructions are designed to assist Test Control Officers (TCO) with First Quarter FY10 Electronic Test Inventory, which is due Jan. 1, 2010.

The DANTES Automated Test Inventory Program (DATIP) section of the DANTS Exam Management Information System (EMIS) is designed with a 15-day submission window (Dec. 26, 2009-Jan. 10, 2010) and no late exceptions permitted. The Inventory **Submit** button is visible only during the submission window.

The Quarterly Inventory Process

The DANTES EMIS Web DATIP is centered on the due date, the first of the month. This process is the same for both those who have monthly or quarterly inventory requirements. Five days before the due date an email reminder notification is sent as a WEB DATIP system message to all stocking Test Control Officers announcing the opening of the inventory window. The “submit” inventory button is visible only during the submission window. For example, on Dec. 26, 2009, the following system message will be sent: “Your DATIP Quarterly inventory is due on Jan. 1, 2010. Please submit the inventory for this quarter.”

This provides a 10-day window for inventory submission. The early inventory window closes on fifth of the month.

On Jan. 6, 2010, the late notification window opens with a system message to those stocking Test Control Officers who have not submitted the Quarterly Inventory: “Your DATIP inventory is currently past due. There are five days remaining to submit inventory for this period.”

This opens the Late Quarterly Inventory Window. The window closes Jan. 10, 2010 and the **Submit Inventory** button is no longer available.

On Jan. 17, 2010, DANTES exam section receives the “Late Status” files of test centers that did not use the Web DATIP Quarterly Inventory process.

How to Submit an Inventory

Login to EMIS and click on Web DATIP. Then, click on **Help** on the top menu. If viewed online, under the **Reports** section, click on **Submit Inventory**. These Help instructions can be printed.

Submit Inventory

To submit an inventory report to the testing agency, click or mouse over **Reports** on the toolbar. Click the **Submit Inventory** link.

Select **All** for an exam program and click the **View & Print** button.

Utilizing the report, conduct an inventory of exams in the security container.

Again, click or mouse over **Reports** on the toolbar. Click the **Submit Inventory** link.

Note: This is a revised procedure to ensure the user first generates a report and then submits the inventory after conducting the inventory.

Click the **Yes** button to certify and submit your inventory for the reporting interval. The inventory reports are electronically forwarded to the respective testing agency.

Note: The Submit Inventory link shall only be present for stocking test centers that have not submitted their inventory. The link shall only be present during the window of opportunity in which to submit an inventory.

Stocking DANTES Test Centers are designated either as monthly or quarterly for inventory submissions purposes.

For both monthly and quarterly

inventory submissions, five days before the end of the reporting period and five after the end of the inventory reporting period is the normal inventory submission window.

Test centers that fail to submit an inventory report during this inventory submission window will receive a system message directing the submission of the inventory report within five additional days. After this date, no inventory report can be submitted.

Farewell to EMIS and DATIP – Hello TCO Portal

The Exams Management Information System (EMIS), currently used to register Test Control Officer (TCO), Alternate TCO and Interim TCO appointments, TCO turn-over, and access on-line DANTES Examination Program applications will be phased out after January 2010. The Web-based DANTES Automated Test Inventory Program (DATIP), available under EMIS, will also be discontinued. These aging legacy systems are no longer compatible with current computer interface requirements. Access to these systems and the current FY10 DANTES Examination Program Handbook (DEPH) will be available through January to facilitate the quarterly test inventory requirement.

In February 2010, EMIS and DATIP will be replaced by the new TCO Portal, a password-protected, web-based centralized source housing all of the DANTES Examination Program applications. The TCO Portal will contain TCO profiles, the DEPH, test site look-up, test inventory instructions, test order and reimbursement forms, as well as Service and DANTES Test Site volume/pass rate reports.

(continued on page 7)

New GED exam forms arriving in January

If you currently stock GED Batteries, you will receive, starting in mid-January 2010, Forms IG, IH, and IB for use beginning January 2010. These are the new GED test forms for calendar year 2010. The 2009 forms you currently stock, ID, IJ and IK cannot be administered after Dec. 31, 2009 and must be returned to GED Testing Service after that date. Any 2009 GED test form administered after Dec. 31, 2009 yearly program close out will not be scored.

Nicole M. Chestang named vice president and executive director of GED® Testing Service



The American Council on Education (ACE) appointed Nicole M. Chestang to the position of vice president and executive director of GED® Testing Service, a program of ACE. Her appointment was effective Nov. 2, 2009.

“I am delighted to welcome Nicole to the GEDTS senior leadership team,” said ACE President Molly Corbett Broad. “Her appointment comes at a pivotal time for GEDTS as ACE will be making a significant investment in developing

the next generation GED Test, including the planning and development of a comprehensive support network to enhance access and attainment.”

Last year witnessed an increased demand for the GED high school equivalency credential, with nearly 777,000 adults taking the tests, the highest number since the latest series of GED Tests was introduced in 2002.

Article submitted by Kellee Edmonds, ACE

Frequently asked questions about GED testing

What does “GED” stand for?

GED – A trademarked acronym used to refer to the General Educational Development Tests, a battery of examinations administered by all 50 states and jurisdictions to measure the skills and knowledge of a high school–level course of study. Those who pass the GED Tests earn a GED Diploma or GED Certificate. The type of credential issued varies by state.

When and why did GED testing begin?

At the request of the military, the GED Tests were first developed in 1942 to help returning World War II veterans finish their high school studies and reenter civilian life. The GED Tests first became available to civilians in 1947 when the state of New York implemented a program to award its high school diploma to those who passed.

Who produces the GED Tests?

The GED Tests are developed, delivered, and safeguarded by content specialists, researchers, psychometricians, and other staff of the GED Testing Service®, a nonprofit program of the American Council on Education®. The tests are owned by ACE.

How does the GED testing program work?

The GED testing program is an international partnership involving the GED Testing Service, each of the 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia, the Canadian provinces and territories, the U.S. insular areas, the U.S. military, and federal correctional institutions.

GED Testing Service establishes the test administration procedures and passing standard. All jurisdictions administer the GED Tests and award their high school credentials to adults who meet the GED Tests passing standards and any other additional jurisdictional requirements.

How many people take the GED Tests?

In 2008, more than 776,000 adults worldwide took some portion of the GED test battery. Of that total, 72.6 percent passed the tests and 80 percent were taking the tests for the first time.

What does it mean to “pass” the GED Tests?

In order to pass the GED Tests, an examinee must have a combined passing score of 2250; in addition, each individual subject area test score must be 410 or greater. Those passing the GED Tests have demonstrated a level of knowledge equal to or greater than 40 percent of graduating high school seniors.

Article submitted by Kellee Edmonds, ACE

Funded credentialing news

Over the years, DANTES has provided different types of funded certification or licensure examinations to Service personnel worldwide. These have included the following:

- Certified Technical Trainer (CTT)
- Microsoft
- Food Protection (FPCP)
- Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
- Electronics Technicians Association, International (ETA-I)

Next month, DANTES will announce the two new funded certification programs that will be available to military members. Kindly inform Service members of this upcoming opportunity. The funded exams may be in a credentialing area that they work in with the military. In January, please visit the DANTES Web site at <http://www.dantes.doded.mil> and check “Hot News,” plus look in the January issue of the DANTES Information Bulletin for a full description of these funded certifications.

ASE fall testing over – return materials

The fall testing cycle of Automotive Service Examinations (ASE) was completed in November. All DANTES TCOs who administered the ASE exams must return all ASE test materials immediately to ASE in Iowa City, Iowa. If your location experienced a problem during the administration cycle, please write an irregularity report and include it in the materials returned to ASE/ACT. Also notify the DANTES Credentialing Program office by e-mailing us at certprog@navy.mil. TCOs are also encouraged to call us at (850) 452-1111 ext. 3213 or 3194.

OASC - it's HERE!

Online Academic Skills Course for Military Success (OASC) is now available. This is a customized learning program to improve math and verbal skills. Now available for all Military members and Military family members, as well as all DoD Civilians and their family members. Go to the following web sites: AFVEC, AKO, GKO, NKO, DANTES, MCCS, USCG or the Military OneSource and check it out!

- ✓ AFVEC <https://www.my.af.mil/faf/FAF/fafHome.jsp>
- ✓ AKO <https://www.us.army.mil>
- ✓ GKO <https://gko.ngb.army.mil/Login/welcome.aspx>
- ✓ NKO <https://wwwa.nko.navy.mil/portal/home/>
- ✓ DANTES <http://www.dantes.doded.mil>
- ✓ MCCS <http://www.usmc-mccs.org/education/index.cfm>
- ✓ USCG <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg1/cgi/ve/OASC.asp>
- ✓ Military OneSource <http://www.militaryonesource.com>

False Grantham Univ e-mail circulation

According to Vern Taylor, Director, Lifelong Learning, HQMC, if anyone received an e-mail from a Bob Wats (mgysgtcorp@yahoo.com), Subject: Beware of this Online Nationally Accredited College (GranthamUniversity), please disregard this, as it is false and the claims unsubstantiated. Any Service members who have issues with their academic institution may find recourse and assistance through their local Education Center ESO.



December 2009

- 5 – LSAT (50 U.S. states, Canada, Caribbean, Europe and Africa)
- 6 – LSAT (Asia, Australia and New Zealand)
- 11 – ECE Extended Response (Essay)

January 2010

- 9 -13 – Praxis*

February 2010

- 6 – LSAT (50 U.S. states, Canada, the Caribbean)
- 7 – LSAT (Asia, Australia and New Zealand)
- 8 – LSAT (50 U.S. states, Canada, the Caribbean)**
- 19 – ECE Extended Response (Essay)

Notes:

- Overseas test sites send orders six weeks before the test date.
- CONUS test sites send orders four weeks before the test date.
- Contractors ship tests to arrive just before the planned test date.

*Choose only one day to administer. Submit separate Prometric order forms for GRE Subject and Praxis.

**Saturday Sabbath observers

http://www.dantes.doded.mil/dantes_web/library/docs/examinations/exams_calendar.pdf

Farewell to EMIS and DATIP – Hello TCO Portal (continued from page 4)

To enable DANTES test administrators to become familiar with the TCO Portal access and new test inventory procedures, the 2nd Quarter update of the FY10 DEPH will be released in January and made available behind EMIS. It will contain all the changes facilitating the February transition to the TCO Portal with instructions for user name and password account access. A January notice of the February transition to the TCO Portal will be provided by e-mail notification to all DANTES Test Sites. It will contain additional guidance for access and use.

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Jeffrey P. Cropsey, Ed.D., Director
 Vacant, Editor
pubs@navy.mil

DANTES holds holiday bake sale

The staff at DANTES hosted a holiday bake sale on Nov. 9 at Sauflay Field which was a huge success. There were a wide variety of baked goods prepared by the staff. The DANTES Staff wishes everyone a Happy Holiday.



Left to right: John Page, Victoria Street and Pat Landry



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DSN 922-1111 (plus extension); CML (850) 452-1111 (plus extension)

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Reserve Advisor	3127	1159	rca@navy.mil
Web site		1322	dantes_webmaster@navy.mil
European Advisor	011-49-6202-80-6008		dantes@eur.army.mil
Pacific Advisor	808-449-8862		dantes.pacific@hickam.af.mil
Troops to Teachers	3141	1096	ttt@navy.mil
Education Support	3133	1162	
Military Evaluations/ SOC/MIVER	3164	1162	ace-soc@navy.mil
WW09 Symposium	3126	1588	dantesww@navy.mil
Training	3135	1588	dantestraining@navy.mil
Counseling	3132	1162	counseling@navy.mil
Reference Resources	3131	1158	refpubs@navy.mil
DANTES Publications/ DIB	3134	1162	pubs@navy.mil
ACME/Outreach	3126	1588	dantes_outreach@navy.mil
Education Programs	3124	1161	
Examinations	3245	1160	exams@navy.mil
Distance Learning	3129	1161	DantesDL@navy.mil
Tuition Assistance	3130	1161	tahelp@navy.mil
Credentialing/ Certification	3194	1005	certprog@navy.mil
Distribution Center	452-1082	1140	dist@navy.mil